

## Message Text

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ACTION ACDA-10

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 ISO-00 ERDA-05 CIAE-00 H-02 INR-07

IO-11 L-03 NSAE-00 OIC-02 OMB-01 PA-01 PM-04 PRS-01

SAJ-01 SAM-01 SP-02 SS-15 USIA-06 TRSE-00 NSC-05 /090 W

----- 041305

R 271705Z FEB 76

FM AMEMBASSY BONN

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 6798

INFO SECDEF WASHDC

AMEMBASSY LONDON

USMISSION NATO BRUSSELS

USDEL MBFR VIENNA

USNMR SHAPE

CINC EUR VAIHINGEN

S E C R E T SECTION 01 OF 02 BONN 03333

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PARM, NATO, MBFR, GW

SUBJECT: MBFR: VERIFICATION

REFS: A. MBFR VIENNA 0073 DTG 261540Z FEB 76

B. STATE 39081 DTG 182116Z FEB 76

C. STATE 109061 DTG 092249Z MAY 75

D. STATE 265860 DTG 102238Z NOV 75

SUMMARY: SHOULD THE U.S. DECIDE TO PRESS FOR AN ALLIANCE POSITION ON VERIFICATION AS RECOMMENDED BY THE DELEGATION, THE EMBASSY BELIEVES IT IS ESSENTIAL THAT THE CURRENT U.S. APPROACH BE RECONSIDERED WITH A VIEW TO ELIMINATING THE CONCEPT OF MOBILE INSPECTION TEAMS IF FRG CONCURRENCE IS TO BE OBTAINED. END SUMMARY

1. THE EMBASSY BELIEVES THE DELEGATION HAS MADE A GOOD CASE FOR THE U.S. TO MOVE AHEAD NOW IN DEVELOPING A COORDINATED ALLIANCE POSITION IN ORDER TO PRESENT AN EXPLICIT STATEMENT TO THE EAST ON NEGOTIATED INSPECTION

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BY MID-MAY (REF A). ALTHOUGH THE GERMANS CONTINUE TO

INDICATE BOTH HERE AND IN WASHINGTON (REF B) THAT THEY PERCEIVE NO NEED FOR HASTE ON THE VERIFICATION ISSUE, WE DO NOT BELIEVE THEY WOULD ATTEMPT ACTIVELY TO BLOCK A U.S. INITIATIVE TO OBTAIN DRAFT NAC GUIDANCE. HOWEVER, IN ORDER TO OBTAIN GERMAN ACQUIESCENCE IN SUCH A U.S. INITIATIVE, WE BELIEVE IT WILL BE NECESSARY FOR THE U.S. TO RECONSIDER THE NEED FOR MOBILE INSPECTION TEAMS.

2. WE ARE NOT SANGUINE THAT THE GERMANS WOULD ACCEPT THE 'SPLIT APPROACH' RECOMMENDED BY THE DELEGATION. THE DELEGATION SEEMS TO HAVE DEVELOPED THE APPROACH BASED ON POSSIBLE GERMAN FLEXIBILITY IN ACCEPTING INTRUSIVE INSPECTION MEASURES FOLLOWING THE OCTOBER ELECTION. WE PERCEIVE LITTLE CHANCE FOR SUCH FLEXIBILITY. SHOULD THE VOTERS RETURN THE GOVERNING COALITION TO POWER, IT SEEMS UNLIKELY TO US THAT CHANCELLOR SCHMIDT WOULD REVERSE HIS POSITION ON THE ACCEPTABILITY OF MOBILE INSPECTION TEAMS IN THE FRG. THEY ARE AS UNLIKELY TO BE ACCEPTABLE IN 1977 AS THEY WERE IN 1975, LONG BEFORE THE ELECTION. DISARMAMENT COMMISSIONER ROTH HAS REPEATED THE POINT ON NUMEROUS OCCASIONS BOTH IN BONN AND WASHINGTON THAT SUCH A SYSTEM IS UNACCEPTABLE TO THE FRG AND THAT THIS DECISION HAS BEEN TAKEN AT THE HIGHEST LEVELS OF GOVERNMENT, I.E., THE CHANCELLOR. WE BELIEVE ROTH'S STATEMENT CAN BE TAKEN AT FACE VALUE.

3. WERE THE CONSERVATIVE CDU/CSU PARTIES TO WIN THE ELECTION, WE BELIEVE THE FRG WOULD BE EVEN MORE OPPOSED TO THE IDEA OF EASTERN INSPECTORS ROAMING AROUND GERMAN TERRITORY. WHILE A CDU/CSU GOVERNMENT WOULD UNDOUBTEDLY CONTINUE TO SUPPORT THE MBFR NEGOTIATIONS AS A WHOLE,

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THE CONCEPT OF EASTERN MOBILE INSPECTION TEAMS TOURING AROUND FRG TERRITORY IN ADDITION TO SOVIET MILITARY LIAISON MISSION PERSONNEL WOULD ALMOST CERTAINLY RAISE POLITICAL HACKLES. ACCORDINGLY, WE PERCEIVE LITTLE LIKELIHOOD THAT ANY FUTURE GOVERNMENT - WHETHER SPD OR CDU LED- WOULD ACCOMMODATE ITSELF TO U.S. VIEWS ON THIS ISSUE.

4. FROM OUR PERSPECTIVE IN BONN, IT APPEARS THAT THE FRG HAS BEEN FORTHCOMING ON NEGOTIATED INSPECTION MEASURES IN MBFR. THEY HAVE ACCEPTED, IN PRINCIPLE, THE CONCEPT OF DECLARED EXIT/ENTRY POINTS WITH OBSERVERS STATIONED THERE (REF D). IN THE RECENTLY NEGOTIATED BILATERAL TEXT THEY AGREED FURTHER THAT THE OBSERVERS COULD ALSO ACCOMPANY THE WITHDRAWING UNITS. IT SHOULD BE NOTED THAT SUCH OBSERVERS WOULD BE OPERATING PRINCIPALLY WITHIN THE FRG, AND THAT THE GERMAN POSITION REPRESENTS A SUBSTANTIAL CONCESSION ON THEIR PART.

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ALSO, THE FRG HAS EXPRESSED WILLINGNESS TO TAKE ANOTHER LOOK AT THE FEASIBILITY OF AERIAL INSPECTION MEASURES. ALTHOUGH SKEPTICAL THAT SUCH MEASURES ARE TECHNICALLY FEASIBLE, THE FRG WILL BE RESPONSIVE TO A U.S. INITIATIVE TO CONVENE A MEETING OF MILITARY AND TECHNICAL EXPERTS TO DISCUSS THE PROBLEM IN DEPTH.

5. IN VIEW OF THE ABOVE AND ASSUMING THE U.S. DECIDES TO TAKE A POSITION ON VERIFICATION AND PROCEED WITHIN NATO AS RECOMMENDED BY THE DELEGATION, WE BELIEVE IT IS ESSENTIAL THAT THE U.S. REVERT TO ITS EARLIER DRAFT POSITION (REF C) WHICH EXCLUDED THE USE OF MOBILE INSPECTION TEAMS IF WE HOPE TO OBTAIN FRG CONCURRENCE.

FRG FOREIGN OFFICE VERIFICATION OFFICIALS HAVE INDICATED TO US IN THE PAST THEIR RECEPTIVITY TO THE EARLIER U.S. APPROACH. THE IDEA OF MOBILE INSPECTION TEAMS REMAINS VERY MUCH A NON-STARTER IN THE FEDERAL REPUBLIC. SHOULD THE U.S. CONTINUE TO PRESS ITS CURRENT APPROACH, WE BELIEVE IT WOULD ONLY LEAD TO A SIGNIFICANT DELAY IN THE DEVELOPMENT OF A COORDINATED ALLIANCE POSITION.  
HILLENBRAND

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